

Member Duties

The State Advisory Council on Aging (SAC) is the research and advocacy arm of the Commission on Services to the Aging (CSA). Citizens of the United States who live in Michigan are invited to apply for potential three-year terms to represent one of the 16 Area Agencies on Aging. SAC is composed of volunteers, although members receive a mileage allotment for travel.

Each year, the Commission gives the members of the Advisory Council on Aging a research assignment based on an issue pertinent to senior citizens. The finished report goes to the Governor and to the Legislature. Their report also goes online so that it can have a grassroots effect on the 16 Area Agencies on Aging, the 83 Commissions, Councils, or Units on Aging, and the hundreds of senior centers throughout the State, as well as countless other senior service providers and concerned citizens.

Every member of the Advisory Council contributes to the report's research and/or composition. Members meet four to five times for face-to-face meetings in Lansing; these meetings last about 4 to 5 hours with a lunch and comfort breaks. They also meet at least 6 times in teleconferences that last about 2 hours apiece.

Traditionally, the face-to-face meetings occur during the months of March, April, June, [August], and October. The teleconferences usually occur in July, September, November, January, and February. If your appointment is confirmed, you will receive the current working calendar with specific dates and times. In addition, you will receive a SAC handbook that explains duties and procedures in more detail, and you will participate in an orientation session that will answer any questions that you may have.

This is a working Council; therefore, before submitting your application, please take into consideration your current commitments and whether they might prevent you from adhering to this schedule and contributing your equitable share.

In addition to the annual report, SAC members are expected to offer suggestions and to implement each new edition of the State Plan on Aging, to participate in public hearings and learn from guest speakers, to carry information back to their local commissions/councils on aging and to senior centers as advocates, and to report to SAC on local issues that may need attention at the state level or that may portend trouble ahead for other Michigan regions.

Application Instructions

Applications are accepted at any time throughout the year with consideration given to geographical representation when prioritizing applicants as appointments are made to ensure the entire state is represented. Applicants who would like to serve are encouraged to first read the SAC Member Duties and may submit their application and résumé to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), Aging and Adult Services Agency, P.O. Box 30676, Lansing, MI 48909-8176 or via e-mail with electronic signature to swansonL1@michigan.gov.

The State Advisory Council (SAC) on Aging is an advisory body to the Michigan Commission on Services to the Aging (CSA) and staffed by the MDHHS, Aging and Adult Services Agency (AASA). SAC members join workgroups to undertake research and policy development assignments as directed by the CSA. The SAC seeks to reflect the demographic and geographic diversity of Michigan's older population.

SAC meetings are held face-to-face in Lansing from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. four to five times during the year: March, April, June, [August], and October. Lunch is provided and mileage reimbursement is only paid to SAC members when attending any of these meetings. Conference calls are also held regularly during the year. Attendance, active participation, and homework are required.

Applicants must submit an application and résumé with original signature to AASA or electronic signature via email to Lauren Swanson-Aprill, AASA, swansonL1@michigan.gov. An original signature ensures that the applicant consents to the application, and has not been nominated by someone else without their knowledge. Applications without original or electronic signatures will not be reviewed. Please review the following application guidelines.

1. Complete the form legibly with black ink.
2. A resume or personal history of activities/accomplishments shall be attached.
3. All applications must be personally signed and dated.
4. E-mailed applications must include an electronic signature and date signed.
5. If you are a former or current SAC member, please complete the form fully.
6. Please keep a completed copy of your application for your records.

Please note: All applicants will be notified regarding the status of their applications and their applications will be retained for one year.

The SAC application form and instructions are available at:
<http://www.michigan.gov/aasa>